

## Claims

1. A method of exchanging messages using a commonly accessible message board, the method comprising:

5       presenting a user with one or more predefined messages and  
      receiving an input from the user selecting one of said predefined  
      messages as a message for posting on said message board.

2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising posting said  
10       message on said message board.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein said posting of said message  
on said message board includes sending said message to at least one other  
15       user.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said sending said message to at  
least one other user comprises transmitting said data over a communications  
network.

20       5. A method according to claim 3, wherein said sending said message to at  
least one other user comprises transmitting said data over the internet.

6. A method according to claim 3, wherein said sending said message to at  
least one other user comprises transmitting said data over a  
25       telecommunications network.

7. A method according to claim 3, wherein said sending said message to at  
least one other user comprises transmitting data as a short message service  
(SMS) message.

8. A method according to claim 3, wherein said sending said message to at least one other user comprises transmitting said data over a local area network.

5 9. A method according to claim 1, wherein said presenting said user with said one or more predefined messages comprises outputting graphical representations of said predefined messages to a display.

10 10. A method according to claim 9, wherein said outputting said graphical representations comprises displaying selectable icons using a graphical user interface.

11 11. A method according to claim 10, wherein each of said selectable icons include text of a respective message to be posted to said message board.

12 12. A method according to claim 10, wherein said selecting said one of said predefined messages includes locating a focus on a one of said selectable icons.

20 13. A computer program for performing the method according to claim 1.

14. An electronic device for exchanging messages using a commonly accessible message board, the device configured to present a user with one or more predefined messages and to receive an input from the user selecting one  
25 of said predefined messages as a message for posting on said message board.

15. A device according to claim 13, which is a computer.

16. A device according to claim 13, which is a mobile communications  
30 device.

17. A device according to claim 15, which is a mobile telephone handset.

18. A method of exchanging text messages comprising:

5 receiving a message; and

responding to the message by:

(a) selecting a predefined message and sending it, and thereafter

(b) composing a non-predefined message and sending it.

10 19. A method according to claim 18, wherein said sending of said messages  
comprise sending said messages to another user.

20. A method according to claim 18, wherein said sending of said messages  
comprise posting said messages to a commonly accessible message board.

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21. A computer program for performing the method according to claim 18.

22. An electronic device for exchanging text messages, the device  
configured:

20 to receive a message and

to respond to the message by permitting the user to select a predefined  
message and send it, and thereafter compose a non-predefined message and  
send it.

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